

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 02129 250126 Z

70

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 PC-04 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 OMB-01

NIC-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /129 W
----- 023280

P R 250030 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1345

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USCINCSO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, NU

SUBJ: CONSTRUCTION STRIKE CONTINUES: METAL WORKERS ALSO OUT

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: MANAGUA 1961, 1998 AND 2018

1. SUMMARY: CONTRARY TO GON HOPES, APR 23 BROUGHT A CONTINUATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS STRIKE, AND THE ADDITION OF A SURPRISE BY SEVERAL HUNDRED METAL WORKERS, WHO ARE ALSO SEEKING A RETURN TO THE 48 HOUR WEEK WITH OVERTIME PAID FOR ADDITIONAL HOURS WORKED. CONSTRUCTION WORKERS AND MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVES ARE MEETING WITH THE LABOR MINISTER APR 24 TO SEEK A SOLUTION. END SUMMARY.

2. GON HOPES THAT THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY STRIKE REPORTED REFTELS MIGHT SOMEHOW DISAPPEAR DURING THE HOLY WEEK HIATUS DID
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PAGE 02 MANAGU 02129 250126 Z

NOT MATERIALIZE. WHILE A FAIRLY HIGH PERCENTAGE OF WORKERS RETURNED TO SOME SITES, INCLUDING THE NEW EMBASSY, ON APR 23 OTHER JOBS WERE STILL HARD HIT BY THE WALKOUT. MOREOVER, EVEN SITES WITH A GOOD TURNOUT EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE CERTAIN SKILLED WORKERS FAILED TO SHOW, E. G. , NO CARPENTERS REPORTED FOR WORK AT THE EMBASSY.

3. CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH GEN SOMOZA THE EVENING OF APR 23 AND REPORTED AGREED TO OFFER AN A LONG TALK WITH IVORY COAST PERMREP AKE, WHO SAID THAT AT A MINIMUM CONTINUATION " COULD DO NO HARM", BUT STAVROPOULOS ADDED THAT FOR EVERY AKE THERE WERE TWO AF AMBS OPPOSED.

3. STAVROPOULOS SAID HIS OWN VIEW IS THAT THE MOST SENIOR PARTY LEVELS OF THE SAG HAVE NO DETAILED IDEAS ON FUTURE NAMIBIAN POLICY. HE SAID HE BELIEVES THAT THOSE WHO HAVE DEALT IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS PERCEIVE THAT, " IN THE END", NAMIBIA WILL " MOVE AWAY FROM" SOUTH AFRICA BUT WHILE THEY HAVE AN IMPRESSION OF THE ENORMITY OF THE PROBLEM THEY HAVE NO PLANS FOR DEALING WITH IT.

4. STAVROPOULOS COMMENTED THAT YUGOSLAV PERMREP MOSJOV HAS SUGGESTED THE SYG WOULD DO BETTER NOT RPT NOT TO SEEK AN EXPLICIT RENEWAL BY THE SC OF HIS NAMIBIA MANDATE BUT SHOULD, INSTEAD, MERELY GO ON TALKING TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS AND OTHER AF' S AS OPPORTUNITY WAS PROVIDED. STAVROPOULOS SAID THAT THE IDEA WAS NOT AS SILLY AS IT SOUNDED SINCE THIS WAS, IN EFFECT, THE PRACTICE FOLLOWED BY U THANT WHO HAD TAKEN EACH OCCASION OF A VISIT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN FM OR FONSECY TO THE US FOR A TOUR D' HORIZON OF NAMIBIA (AND APARTHEID). SCALI

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